

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been allowed. Claims 2,3,6,7,11 and 12 have been cancelled to place the application in condition for allowance.

In regards to the corresponding PCT case (WO 03/036120 A2) (PCT/US02/34270) please see the attached copies of the PCT Notification of Transmittal and International Preliminary Examination Report in which no opinion was established. Applicants filed a Demand in the PCT case and have filed National Applications in China, Japan, and the EPO, all which are pending. Applicants note that prior to refusing to search the 37 PCT claims, the EPO/ International Searching Authority sent the attached PCT Communication in cases which no other form is applicable (mailing date 17/12/2002) which the search would be delayed due to a search backlog at the EPO.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on August 9,2004 with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop: AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, with sufficient postage as first class mail (37 CFR 1.8(a)).

Scott Dominy
August 9,2004